

ATTACHMENT TO:
[REDACTED]

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ACTIVITY REPORT

OPERATIONAL SUMMARY AND STATUS
OXCART AND IDEALIST PROGRAMS

JULY 1967

I. OXCART

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A. Contingency Planning [REDACTED]

No change.

B. Overflight Summary [REDACTED]

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1. Three A-12 operational missions were flown during the month of July 1967. All missions were launched from and recovered at Kadena AB, Okinawa.

a. Mission BX6708 was flown on 13 July 1967 against North Vietnam targets in the North Central areas. Total flight time enroute was 3 hours 40 minutes. No evidence of surface-to-surface missile deployment was noted. A total of 71 surface-to-air missile sites were identified, including one new site. Five of the sites were occupied.

b. Mission BX6709 was flown on 19 July 1967 against Central and South Central areas in North Vietnam. Total flight time enroute was 5 hours 5 minutes. A total of 166 surface-to-air missile sites were identified, including four new sites. Twelve of the sites were occupied. Five of the nine priority surface-to-surface missile targets in North Vietnam were covered.

c. Mission BX6710 was flown 20 July 1967 against North East areas in North Vietnam. Total flight time enroute was 4 hours 55 minutes. Eighty surface-to-air missile sites were identified, twenty of which were not covered on mission BX6709. Five surface-to-air missile sites were occupied, two were new. Seven of the nine priority surface-to-surface missile targets in North Vietnam were covered.

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d. Missions BX6709 and BX6710. This is the first time missions were flown on consecutive days.

C. Project Pilot Inventory

Six project pilots are currently operationally ready. Three pilots are at Kadena AB, Okinawa, and the remaining three are [REDACTED] A 45-day rotation schedule to/from Kadena AB, Okinawa, has been implemented for project pilots.

D. A-12 Aircraft

1. Six aircraft are located at [REDACTED] of which four are assigned to the Detachment and two to the Flight Test Center. Aircraft 124 is a J-75 engine equipped, dual seat trainer; all other aircraft are equipped with J-58 engines.

2. Three aircraft are located at Kadena AB, Okinawa.

II. IDEALIST

A. General Summary

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a result, only one operational mission was flown during the month of July, 1967.

a. Mission C237C was flown [REDACTED] on 20 July 1967.

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After survival training is completed, they will begin ground and flying training in the U-2. They are expected to complete their training and return [] in late November 1967.

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3. [] installed on an equipment bay hatch, was thoroughly flight tested during this month. Eight sorties were flown as part of the test program and an additional five sorties were flown to validate system reliability. One of the five validation sorties included a flight [] to determine if there was any interference between the interrogation equipment and aircraft defensive systems. An evaluation of validation sorties completed on 28 and 29 July 1967 will determine whether equipment will be shipped to [] for operational employment or further testing and validation is required at []

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4. [] Two [] sorties (crop photography) were completed during the month. A successful mission was flown on 14 July but the film broke on the mission flown 25 July and the mission was completely unsuccessful. This mission was rescheduled for 1 August 1967.

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5. [] Equipment was shipped to [] 7 July 1967.

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6. Article 359 was flown by Lockheed test pilot, [] on 20 July without slipper tanks, (auxiliary fuel tanks, wing mounted), and on 21 July with slipper tanks to determine if slipper tanks had any adverse effect on flight characteristics and aircraft maneuverability. Based on this limited test program, Lockheed concluded that installation of slipper tanks does not materially affect aircraft maneuverability.

7. Article 359 was returned to Lockheed on 19 July 1967 for periodic inspection and service bulletin compliance including installation of provisions for 28 channel recording equipment.

B. Product Improvement

Negative.

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